

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently amended) An apparatus for introducing a reducing agent containing urea into the exhaust of an internal combustion engine, the apparatus comprising

a reservoir,

a delivery unit,

a flow path for the reducing agent, the flow path leading from the reservoir to the delivery unit,

a ventilation device for ventilating at least one region of the flow path, the ventilation device being disposed in the flow path and being situated at a geodetic high point of the flow path, and

a ventilation opening in the ventilation device that always permits a return of a minimal fluid quantity to the reservoir, and
a ventilation return line connecting the ventilation opening and the reservoir.

9. **(Previously presented)** The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the ventilation device comprises a float valve.

10. **(Previously presented)** The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the ventilation device includes a solenoid valve.

11. **(Previously presented)** The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the ventilation device comprises a flow throttle.

12. **(Previously presented)** The apparatus according to claim 8, further comprising a filter, and wherein the ventilation device is situated in the filter or in close proximity to the filter.

13. **(Previously presented)** The apparatus according to claim 9, further comprising a filter, and wherein the ventilation device is situated in the filter or in close proximity to the filter.

14. **(Previously presented)** The apparatus according to claim 10, further comprising a filter, and wherein the ventilation device is situated in the filter or in close proximity to the filter.

15. **(Previously presented)** The apparatus according to claim 11, further comprising a filter, and wherein the ventilation device is situated in the filter or in close proximity to the filter.

16. **(Previously presented)** The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the filter is able to operate in two different installation positions that differ from each other by approximately 90° and wherein the ventilation device is situated at an angle of approximately 45° between the two installation positions.

17. **(Previously presented)** The apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the filter is able to operate in two different installation positions that differ from each other by approximately 90° and wherein the ventilation device is situated at an angle of approximately 45° between the two installation positions.

18. **(Previously presented)** The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the filter is able to operate in two different installation positions that differ from each other by approximately 90° and wherein the ventilation device is situated at an angle of approximately 45° between the two installation positions.

19. **(Previously presented)** The apparatus according to claim 15, wherein the filter is able to operate in two different installation positions that differ from each other by approximately 90° and wherein the ventilation device is situated at an angle of approximately 45° between the two installation positions.

20. **(Previously presented)** The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the ventilation device is situated upstream of the delivery unit.

21. **(Previously presented)** The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the ventilation device is situated upstream of the delivery unit.

22. **(Previously presented)** The apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the ventilation device is situated upstream of the delivery unit.

23. **(Previously presented)** The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the ventilation device is situated upstream of the delivery unit.

24. **(Previously presented)** The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the ventilation device is situated upstream of the delivery unit.

25. **(Previously presented)** The apparatus according to claim 16, wherein the ventilation device is situated upstream of the delivery unit.

26. **(New)** An apparatus for introducing a reducing agent containing urea into the exhaust of an internal combustion engine, the apparatus comprising

a reservoir,

a delivery unit,

a flow path for the reducing agent, the flow path leading from the reservoir to the delivery unit,

a ventilation device for ventilating at least one region of the flow path, the ventilation device being disposed in the flow path and being situated at a geodetic high point of the flow path,

a ventilation opening in the ventilation device that always permits a return of a minimal fluid quantity to the reservoir, and

a ventilation return line connecting the ventilation opening and the reservoir, wherein the ventilation device comprises a float valve.